

**WHAT I / WE CLAIM IS:**

1. According to one aspect of the present invention there is provided an improved fluid treatment system, including  
  
a low-pressure source, wherein the low-pressure source imparts a low pressure to at least part of the internal volume of the improved fluid treatment system, and  
  
at least one fluid inlet, and  
  
a primary chamber, wherein the primary chamber contains at least one baffle adapted to control the flowrate of fluid out of the primary chamber, and,  
  
a secondary chamber, wherein the secondary chamber defines at least one inclined surface, and  
  
at least one fluid outlet,  
  
characterised in that,  
  
fluid entering from the fluid inlet is pooled between the primary chamber wall and the baffle before flowing out of the primary chamber past the baffle to form a thin film laminar flow on at least part of the surface of the secondary chamber to remove at least part of the gas entrained within the fluid.
2. A fluid treatment system as claimed in claim 1 configured such that the thin film of fluid present in the secondary chamber creates a large

meniscus to the low pressure source.

3. A fluid treatment system as claimed in either claim 1 or claim 2 wherein the secondary chamber has a single inclined surface.
4. A fluid treatment system as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 3 wherein the inner surface of the secondary chamber is inclined to control the rate of fluid.
5. A fluid treatment system as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 4 wherein the secondary chamber inner surface is textured to decrease velocity of a fluid flowing over the surface.
6. A fluid treatment system as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 5 configured to allow fluid to pool in the primary chamber.
7. A fluid treatment system as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 6 wherein there is a gap along at least part of the base of the baffle to control the flow of fluid from the primary chamber into the secondary chamber.
8. A fluid treatment system as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 7 which has a fluid outlet positioned substantially towards the base of the system.
9. A fluid treatment system as claimed in either claim 7 or claim 8 wherein the gap is less than 5mm wide.
10. According to another aspect of the present invention there is provided a method of treating fluid characterised by the steps of
  - a) introducing the fluid to a fluid treatment system which includes

a low-pressure source, which imparts a low pressure to at least part of the internal volume of the improved fluid treatment system, at least one fluid inlet, a primary chamber, which contains at least one baffle adapted to control the flowrate of fluid out of the primary chamber, a secondary chamber, which defines at least one inclined surface, at least one fluid outlet,

wherein fluid entering from the fluid inlet is pooled between the primary chamber wall and the baffle before flowing out of the primary chamber past the baffle to form a thin film laminar flow on at least part of the surface of the secondary chamber to remove at least part of the gas entrained within the fluid, and

b) removing fluid from the treatment system.

11. A fluid treatment system substantially as herein described with reference to and as illustrated by the accompanying drawings.
12. A method of operating a fluid treatment system substantially as herein described with reference to and as illustrated by the accompanying drawings.